I hereby certify that this correspondence is being filed via EFS-Web with the United States Patent and Trademark Office on October 16, 2006

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE – EXAMINING GROUP 2152

PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: 16869B-016600US Client Ref. No.: HAL-ID 154: 340101961US01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Naoko IWAMI, et al.

Application No.: 09/742,157

Filed: December 19, 2000

For: GUARANTEED DATA ACCESS SPEED OF A STORAGE SYSTEM

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No. 9696

Examiner: Lan Dait Truong

Technology Center/Art Unit: 2152

SECOND AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING GROUP 2152

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Per telephone discussion with Examiner Truong on October 16, 2006, this Second Amendment After Final is presented pursuant to the Notice of Appeal filed August 15, 2006 in connection with the Final Office Action mailed May 15, 2006.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.